



# Interpreting Revelation—Four Main Approaches

**Preterist**----description of events in the Roman Empire in the First Century AD. (Cf. A.D. 70)

**Historicist**---panorama of church history from the apostolic era until the consummation of history

**Idealist**---Timeless symbolic depiction of the cosmic spiritual struggle between the forces of good and evil

**Futurist**---Actual future events which will accompany the end of the age

**(Predictive prophecy)**

- Great Tribulation
- Bodily return of Christ
- Millennium
- Final Judgment
- Eternal State

# **INTRODUCTION AND BENEDICTION 1:1-3**

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ”

“Revelation”--disclosure, unveiling  
“of”---from  
about  
possessed by

## **The Chain of Revelation**

God the Father

Jesus Christ His Son

Revealing Angel

Apostle John

Who bore witness to:

--the Word of God

--the testimony of Jesus Christ

Christ's Servants:

(Seven Churches)

(All true Christians)

# Revelation---Introductory Blessing 1:3

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

## Other Beatitudes in Revelation:

- 14:13 --those who die in the Lord
- 16:15 --those who are watching for the Lord's return
- 19:9 --those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb
- 20:6 --those who share in the first resurrection
- 20:7 --those who obey the words of the prophecy of this book
- 22:14 --those who do His commandments  
(--those who wash their robes)

# **REVELATION ONE**

“The things which you have seen”

A. Introduction and Benediction 1:1-3

B. Greeting and Praise 1:4-8

C. Vision of Christ the Judge 1:9-20

